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DT/Sipel, Gibson - 2 -

Sept. 15, 1926.

Brook and returned to New Brunswick by bus. Sipel after completing the repairs, drove back to his farm and when he arrived there could see that his man was still at work burying the horse, so he again drove up to Mrs. Russell's cabin, arriving there as he claimed about 10:30 P.M. He blew the horn of his automobile to attract the attention of Mrs. Russell but received no answer from her. He says the door was closed at the time and he did not go out of his machine and go in and around the place to determine whether or not she was there. He then drove back to his farm, and found that the workman had finished burying the horse, and on his way back in some way jarred his machine in such a way as to short circuit his lights, and he could not find out where the trouble was. He had agreed to drive the workman back to New Brunswick, and endeavored on account of the condition of his lights, to get the man to go back by bus. However, as he had the chair with him that he borrowed from the saloon, Sipel finally agreed to drive him back. In the absence of lights he took a lantern and hung it on the machine and in this way could see back to New Brunswick. When they got back into town the saloon was closed, and the man requested Sipel to drive him to a lodging house, which apparently was closed, but after ringing the bell, the man was able to get in. In view of the fact that the Franklin Park road was in poor condition, Sipel decided to go back by way of Easton Ave. On his way out of New Brunswick he was stopped by some police officer and warned about his lights. (Mr. Watson has found out the name of the police officer as Van Doren.) Sipel then proceeded out Easton Avenue and as he approached De Russey's Lane about 11.30 P. M., he saw a delivery truck across the roadway, and as he swerved across to pass it, it turned and went into the lane. He claims that it had oval windows in the rear, and was a red or maroon color, and as he had described it to me the previous day, said it was the same style truck as George Rass of New Brunswick formerly owned. Sipel noticed nothing unusual around De Russey's Lane at this time and proceeded on to his home. During the following day he heard nothing further from Knouth, and in order to strengthen his position, in his claim against Mrs. Russell, for the balance due on the note, he came into New Brunswick that evening to see Officer Knouth to determine whether he had made any complaint against Mrs. Russell. When he first arrived in town he was unable to locate Knouth but did find him later in the evening, at which time Knouth informed him that he had appeared before Justice of the Peace Flammer, and that the complaint had been made and Mrs. Russell was due in Court the following week. On his way home that night he saw a large fire off in the direction of his farm, and thinking that it was one of his barns, he speeded up his machine, but when he arrived at his place he found that it was the barn on the property of one of his neighbors, namely, that of a Mr. Merrinauth or Meranaus or some such similar name. Through the incident of this fire he is able to fix the events occurring during this particular week. These facts are all that Simpson and his men embodied in the statement which they had Sipel sign, and it is very evident that they intended to use only such part of Sipel's statement as may tend to show that Mrs. Russell was not at her home at the time that she claims she was visited by Mrs. Jane Gibson on the night of the murders. At this point Sipel said that he had already given the balance of his statement and in the presence of Mr. Watson and Mr. and Mrs. Sipel I then briefly outlined what Sipel had already told me, the previous day, which was to the effect that on the Sunday of the